

REMARKS

Claim 41 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Claim 41 as amended depends from claim 40, which depends from claim 39. As previously written, claim 41 depended from directly from claim 39 and included a wherein clause referencing an "unbiased-stems policy", which was not included in the independent claim 39, causing an antecedent basis problem. Dependent claim 40 does include a reference to an "unbiased-stems hinted placement policy". Applicant asks that all claims be allowed in view of the amendment to the claims.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Aug 16/04.



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